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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/941,733      | 08/30/2001  | Hidetoshi Ito        | 040356-0384         | 8051             |

22428 7590 12/15/2004

FOLEY AND LARDNER  
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3000 K STREET NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20007

EXAMINER

TRAN, HIEN THI

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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1764

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|  |   |               |   |                   |  |
|--|---|---------------|---|-------------------|--|
| Substitute for form 1449B/PTO<br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br>Date Submitted: <b>NOV 20 2002</b><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |   |               |   | Complete if Known |  |
| Application Number   |   | 09/941,733    |   |                   |  |
| Filing Date  |   | 08/30/2001    |   |                   |  |
| First Named Inventor   |   | Hidetoshi ITO |   |                   |  |
| Group Art Unit   |   | 1784          |   |                   |  |
| Examiner Name  |   | Unassigned    |   |                   |  |
| Attorney Docket Number   |   | 040356-0384   |   |                   |  |
| Sheet  | 1 | of            | 1 |                   |  |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |                      |                       |   |   |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---|---|---|
| Examiner Initials*    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                       | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|                       |                       | Number               | Kind Code* (if known) |   |   |   |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |                         |                     |                                   |  |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                                   | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>3</sup> |
|                          |                       | Office <sup>2</sup>     | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |  |  |   |                |
| WV                       | A1                    | JP                      | 2000-002111         |                                   | TOYOTA MOTOR CORP.                               | 01/07/2000                                       |   | A              |
|                          | A2                    | JP                      | 07-008755           |                                   | TOYOTA CENTRAL RES & DEV LAB INC., ET AL         | 01/13/1995                                       |   | A              |
|                          | A3                    | JP                      | 09-287438           |                                   | NISSAN MOTOR CO LTD.                             | 11/04/1997                                       |   | A              |
|                          | A4                    | JP                      | 09-225265           |                                   | NISSAN MOTOR CO LTD.                             | 09/02/1997                                       |   | A              |
|                          | A5                    | JP                      | 07-166854           |                                   | MAZDA MOTOR CORP.                                | 06/27/1995                                       |   | A              |
|                          |                       |                         |                     |                                   |  |  |   |                |

| OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |  |                |
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| Examiner Initials*                                | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>3</sup> |
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| Examiner Signature | Hen Tran | Date Considered | 9/24/04 |
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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